

Message Text

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43

ACTION XMB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20

OPIC-12 DRC-01 RSC-01 /064 W
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R 070826Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1651

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2704

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, RP

SUBJECT: EX-IM BANK DENIAL LOCKHEED L-100 CREDITS

REF: STATE 41980

1. EC/COM COUNSELOR RAISED SUBJECT CREDIT IN GENERAL TERMS WITH EXECSEC MELCHOR MARCH 6. MELCHOR JUMPED INFO THE SUBJECT BY SAYING MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF HAD HEARD THAT (A) EX-IM BANK HAD "TURNED DOWN" REQUEST TO FINANCE L-100; (B) THAT NO FURTHER ACTION WAS CONTEMPLATED BY EX-IM BANK (HE IMPLIED THIS RELATED OTHER PENDING CREDITS AS WELL); AND (C) THAT EX-IM WAS "DOWN ON THE PHILIPPINES GENERALLY." MELCHOR SAID THAT THESE REPORTS WERE BEING VERY BADLY RECEIVED IN MALACANANG AND WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THEY REPRESENTED A "POLICY" OF THE EX-IM BANK.

2. EC/COM COURSELOR STATED FIRMLY THAT THERE WAS NO REPEAT NO EX-IM BANK POLICY OF BEING "DOWN ON THE PHILIPPINES", THAT SUCH A RUMOR WAS MOST UNFORTUNATE AND WHOLLY UNTRUE. IN POINT OF FACT IS WAS EXPLAINED THAT EX-IM HAD ONLY TAKEN A DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO A REQUEST FOR A PRELIMINARY COMMITMENT AND HAD MADE ITS DETERMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SPECIFIC ISSUES. MELCHOR CITED THE LEASE OF THE EARLIER L-100, AND EC/COM COUNSELOR SAID THAT INDEED THIS WAS AN ISSUE BUT NOT BY ANY MEANS THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE. THE REAL CONCERN
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WAS REPORTED PHILIPPINE USE OF THE L-100'S AND THE

CONFLICT OF THAT REPORTED USAGE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PHILIPPINE CERTIFICATION AND OF EX-IM BANK'S AUTHORIZATION. EC/COM COUNSELOR WENT ON TO STATE THAT HE WOULD WELCOME, AS WOULD EX-IM BANK, ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF THE USE OF THE L-100'S THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MIGHT WISH TO PROVIDE, BUT THAT IT LOOKED FOR THE MOMENT AS IF THE BEST COURSE TO AVOID LOSS OF THE PHILIPPINE POSITION IN LOCKHEED'S ORDER BOOK WOULD BE TO SEEK COMMERCIAL FINANCING. MELCHOR DID NOT SEEM ILL-DISPOSED TO THIS SUGGESTION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE DEPARTMENT AND EX-IM COMMENT THAT MAY BE USED IN DEALING WITH THE FOREGOING REPORTS. EMBASSY INTENDS CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE CERTIFICATION ISSUE AS APPROPRIATE.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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